

CASTELLANE PALACE IN  
PARIS A TRIUMPH OF ART  
AND OF THE BEST TASTE

Not Enough of the Gould Money  
Within Reach to Complete It  
as Planned.

HAS FLAVOR OF ROYALTY

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Furniture and Decorations Were  
Originally Made for Kings  
and Princes.

ITS GRAND STAIRCASE  
Anatoh France, the Poet, Also  
Has a House Full of Artistic  
Treasures and Curios.

PARIS, March 29.—American multi-millionaires, bent upon beautiful palaces, should look over the house of Count Boni de Castellane in Paris.

The Count de Castellane may not be a great statesman, but he is decidedly a man of cultivated mind and refined taste. And these elements of discernment and true elegance, backed by untold millions, enabled him to set up a palace the equal of the most famous in the world. He considered the way of combining lofty architecture with congenial furnishings than any royal residence of this or other days.

The great house rises at the junction of two broad avenues near the Bois de Boulogne, standing entirely by itself, one of the main charms of a really beautiful residence. It is the work of a French architect, the marriage to the former Miss Anna Gould of New York, gained control of a vast fortune, spent a king's ransom to rear this palace, which, like that of many a majesty, remains unfinished for want of funds. O that account persons of little or no history should be warned to be snared for the Castellane home; they do not know that most crowned heads live in houses built of a tower or portal according to his means.

The Berlin Schloss, for instance; set

in its present shape by the first King of Prussia with the aid of usurers and alchemists, was galesque up to the time of the present Kaiser.

It is a handsome, elegant young man who delights in showing strangers over his house. He is an excellent host, and a very good conversationalist. The Castellanes own the finest grand staircase in France, the land of the great staircase. It is a masterpiece of bright red marble, having white veins, and the loftiness and elegant swing of its second flight is unique. The staircase is of the structure is said to be an imitation of the great stairs of Trignon, the building of which is attributed to the architect Antoinette's undoing, the most extravagant stories about its cost being necessary to explain the extravagance of the noble Trignon example in outline, but conveys a more dignified impression by the

There are collectors priding themselves upon their maps full of written autographs

Count Castellane filled his hundred-room house with autograph furniture. Each mantelpiece and tabouret, each chair, table, desk, sofa or music stand bears the signet of some maker of the eighteenth century who worked for kings and princes. He was not a collector, for he knew that he would not think of duplicating for some one else, no matter what price was offered. He was a collector of the past, of character and individuality and a rich art lover was able to secure pieces that his neighbors then and now could not afford. He collected his works of sculpture; wood carvers had all their own way and originality counted with jewels no less than with carpenters and cabinet makers. The furniture in the Castellane palace are works of art every one of them. One might go

curiosity-hunting for years before the building was opened to the public. At the time of the regency and the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Louis, furniture, wallpaper and tapestries were changed to suit and supplement one another completely; not only is out of place, there is not a footstep that is not in place, and the visitor's artistic feelings.

The Countess Anna's boudoir is the culminating point of the nineteenth-century taste. No princeps of the blood contemporary of the magnificent Louis boasted of a more comfortable and more modern bedroom. The room like that one involuntarily associated with La Pompadour, Marie Antoinette, and the Empress Josephine, is the last of the small ladies of that picturesque period. The count's bathroom is another gem. The water colors by French masters of the eighteenth century, Jeanouy can represent the last of the century. For the time is hardly a picture that does not represent

To sum up: the Castellanace palace largely represents the money and the taste of its lavishness. I am certain there is not a franc wasted. The Castellanes bought the most beautiful things in the world, but with good taste and the sense of the fitness of things outweigh mere monetary considerations. They are, in fact, the only people, I may say, to the multi-millionaire who would build, go to the Castellanes; it will be a great pleasure for them.

WONDERFUL VILLA SAID.

And while in Paris do not miss Villa Said, Anatole France's home. Since the treasures of Edmund de Gocourt's splendid house were distributed all over the world, Villa Said, more than any other palace

represents its owner's taste and mental calibre. It is a small place, and it would be a misnomer to call it a museum. In more, Each piece of furniture, each article of decoration, is as extraordinary as Anatole's ideas.

In the numerous apartments of the three stories, on the stair landings, everywhere works of art, curious and beautiful things are to be seen. The collector, M. Pierpont Morgan must take a back seat when his collections are compared with the treasures of household furniture, pictures, and bric-a-brac owned by this French prince of moderate means.

You can read the history of France from his collection. He has the *Chapeau de Louis XV*, the *Loz*, here is one built of the discarded mosaics of the Borgia apartments in the Vatican. When the Emperor Napoleon was in Moscow under *Les X*, some one discovered that the mosaics he

lost their original color and should be replaced. Thus Anatole was privileged to enrich his house by the originals, which by that incompardonable miscreant Alexander "the poet" can have surely taken. There are works of art from Greece as well as from Rome, among them a marble Eros of the very best period, Athens, the Pelopones, and the islands furnish sculptures and vases the Louvre might be proud of. France himself collected it in Hellas and at the same time filled it

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